Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A sock (in particular) for use in athletic activities having a foot portion (1) and a shaft portion (2), the foot portion having a toe area (11), a heel area (12), and a tread area (13) between the toe area and the heel area, a ~~climate~~ air channel (25) extending from the shaft portion (2) to the tread area, at least one climate channel (26) in the tread area (13), communicating with the ~~climate~~ air channel (25) for removing moisture from the tread area when the sock is worn for athletic activities.

2. (Previously Presented) A sock according to Claim 1, characterized in that air channels (25) are provided on the inside of the leg and/or on the outside of the leg of the sock and are connected to at least one climate channel (26) in the tread area (13).

3. (Previously Presented) A sock according to Claim 1, characterized in that the climate channels (26) have a curved shape in the tread area (13).

4. (Previously Presented) A sock according to claim 2, characterized in that the climate channels (26) have a curved shape in the tread area (13).

5. (Previously Presented) A sock according to Claim 1, characterized that the climate channels (26) are partially tapered (261).

6. (Previously Presented) A sock according to Claim 1, characterized in that the climate channels (26) have an essentially circular cross section.

7. (Previously Presented) A sock according to Claim 1, characterized in that the climate channels (26) are connected to one another through a central channel (262).

8. (Previously Presented) A sock according to Claim 2, characterized in that air channels (25) and the climate channels (26) are made of the same material.

9. (Previously Presented) A sock according to Claim 2, characterized in that the air channel (25) is made of a climate-regulating mesh knit fabric.

10. (Previously Presented) A sock according to Claim 1, characterized in that the climate channel (26) is made of climate-regulating mesh knit fabric.

11. (Previously Presented) A sock according to Claim 1, characterized in that the sock is equipped with an X-cross bandage (24).

12. (Previously Presented) A sock according to Claim 1, characterized in that the sock has padding (22, 23).

13. (Previously Presented) A sock according to Claim 2, characterized in that the climate channels (26) are partially tapered (261).

14. (Previously Presented) A sock according to Claim 3, characterized in that the climate channels (26) are partially tapered (261).

15. (Previously Presented) A sock according to Claim 2, characterized in that the climate channels (26) have an essentially circular cross section.

16. (Previously Presented) A sock according to Claim 3, characterized in that the climate channels (26) have an essentially circular cross section.

17. (Previously Presented) A sock according to Claim 5, characterized in that the climate channels (26) have an essentially circular cross section.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) A sock for use in athletic activities having a foot portion (1) and a shaft portion (2), the foot portion having a toe area (11), a heel area (12), and a tread area (13) between the toe area and the heel area, an air channel (25) extending from the shaft portion (2) to the tread area, at least one climate channel (26) in the tread area (13), communicating with the air channel (25) for removing moisture from the tread area when the sock is worn for athletic activities, (as in claim 1) and further including a plurality of climate channels (26) in the tread area (13), the climate channels (26) being connected to one another through a central channel (262) arranged along the longitudinal central axis of the tread area, the climate channels branching off from the central channel.

22. (Previously Presented) A sock as in claim 21, wherein the climate channels (26) are curved and branch off on both sides of the central channel (262) and extend from the central channel to the outside edge of the tread area (13).

23. (Previously Presented) A sock according to claim 22, wherein the climate channels (26) have an essentially circular cross section.